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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Masayoshi NOGUCHI et al.

Serial No.: 10/088,179

Filed: July 19, 2001

For: DIGITAL SIGNAL ENCODING APPARATUS AND METHOD, DIGITAL SIGNAL DECODING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND DIGITAL SIGNAL TRANSMITTING SYSTEM

Date: July 24, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

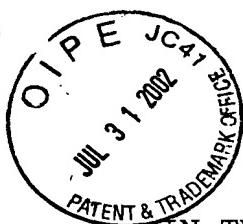
Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

- No fee is required.
- The fee has been calculated as shown below.
- Total claims in excess of _____ previously paid for, at \$18 (\$9) _____
- Independent claims in excess of _____ previously paid for, at \$84 (\$42) _____
- Additional Fee for this Amendment _____
- This Response is being filed within the _____ first month, _____ second month, _____ third month, _____ fourth month, _____ fifth month following the expiration of the term originally set therefor. Applicants Petition for an extension, and the fee of _____ \$110 (\$55), _____ \$400 (\$200), _____ \$920 (\$460), _____ \$1,440 (\$720), _____ \$1,960 (\$980) is due and paid herewith.
- The fee of \$_____ set by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for the Information Disclosure Statement is due and paid herewith.
- A check in the amount of \$ 0.00 is attached.
- Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

COOPER & DUNHAM, LLP

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with
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JAY H. MAIOLI
Reg. No. 27,213

Date 07-24-02

July 24, 2002
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
(212) 278-0400

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure by rewriting same to read as follows:

--A digital signal encoding apparatus for encoding one-bit signals of a plurality of n ($n \geq 2$) channels that is modulated in a delta-sigma manner, including a channel